

Feb 21, 2023

Good afternoon ranking members and members of the committee. Thank you for your time and attention. My name is Lori McAdams and I'm here in support of House Bill 6663.

First, it's essential to recognize that non-English speaking families may face language barriers and discrimination when navigating various systems, such as healthcare, education, and legal systems. These barriers can make it difficult for parents to advocate for their children's needs and ensure they receive the best possible care and education.

A parents' bill of rights would provide clear guidelines and protections for non-English speaking families to help them overcome language barriers and discrimination. Such a bill could ensure that parents have access to translated materials and interpreters, as well as other resources to help them communicate effectively with schools, healthcare providers, and other service providers.

Enacting a parents' bill of rights would also help to promote equity and inclusion for non-English speaking families. It would recognize their unique needs and ensure that they have the same rights and opportunities as other families to advocate for their children's education and well-being.

Finally, it's worth noting that enacting a parents' bill of rights for non-English speaking families is not only beneficial for those families but for society as a whole. All children, regardless of their background or language, deserve access to high-quality education. When non-English speaking families have the tools and resources they need to advocate for their children, we all benefit from a more just and equitable society.

In conclusion, enacting a parents' bill of rights for non-English speaking families is critical for promoting equity, inclusion, and access to resources for all families, regardless of language or cultural background.

Thank you for your time and consideration, I look forward to seeing this bill pass.